

REMARKS

Claims 17-22 and 47-52 are currently pending within the above-identified application, with claims 17 and 47 being independent.

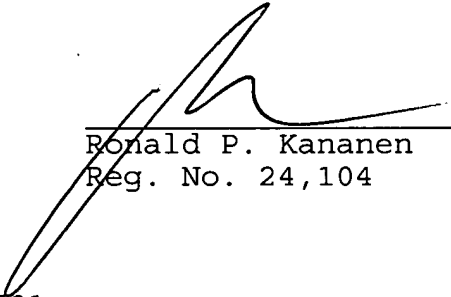
This preliminary amendment is made to amend the specification and to cancel claims 1-16, 23-46 and 53-61.

If the Examiner has any comments or suggestions that could place this application in even better form, the Examiner is requested to telephone Brian K. Dutton, Reg. No. 47,255, at 202-955-8753 or the undersigned attorney at the below-listed number.

If any fee is required or any overpayment made, the Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge the fee or credit the overpayment to Deposit Account # 18-0013.

Respectfully submitted,

Date: November 3, 2003



Ronald P. Kananen
Reg. No. 24,104

RADER, FISHMAN & GRAUER PLLC
Lion Building
1233 20th Street, N.W., Suite 501
Washington, D.C. 20036
Tel: (202) 955-3750
Fax: (202) 955-3751
Customer No. 23353